

8. A stylus, comprising a stem; and a break-off region provided in the stem and consisting of a changed structure of a stem material, wherein a diameter of the stem in the break-off region remains substantially unchanged.

9. A stylus as set forth in claim 8, wherein the break-off region is formed along a circumference of the stem.

10. A stylus as set forth in claim 8, wherein the stem is formed of a hard metal.

11. A stylus as set forth in Claim 8, wherein the break-off region is formed by heat treating a region of the stem in which the predetermined break-off region should be formed without any substantial removal of the stem material.

12. A stylus as set forth in claim 11, wherein the heat treatment comprises irradiating a region of the stem, in which the predetermined break-off region is to be formed, with a laser beam.

13. A coordinate-measuring machine, comprising a touch probe; and a stylus connectable to the touch probe and including a stem, and a break-off region provided in the stem and consisting of a changed structure of a stem

material wherein a diameter of the stem in the break-off region remains substantially unchanged.

14. A machine as set forth in claim 13, wherein the break-off region is formed along a circumference of the stem.

15. A machine set forth in claim 13, wherein the stem is formed of a hard metal.

16. A machine as set forth in claim 13, wherein the break-off region is formed by heat treating a region of the stem in which the predetermined break-off region should be formed without any substantial removal of the stem material.

17. A machine as set forth in claim 16, wherein the heat treatment comprises irradiating a region of the stem, in which the predetermined break-off region is to be formed, with a laser beam.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.